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STATE OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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CRIMINAL DIVISION FEDERAL HABEAS CORPUS SECTION

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March 28, 2008

Hon. Michael H. Dolinger United States Magistrate Judge United States District Court Southern District of New York 120 Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse, Room 1670 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007-1312

Re: Pettiford v. Graham, 07-CV-11232 (DLC) (MHD)

Your Honor:

I am an Assistant Attorney General in the office of Andrew M. Cuomo, Attorney General of the State of New York, attorney for respondent in the above-referenced matter. By Order dated January 24, 2008, Judge Cote directed that respondent file a response to the petition by March 28, 2008. This letter is to respectfully request an extension of time until June 13, 2008 to respond to the petition.

Although we promptly requested copies of the record from the New York County District Attorney's Office, we only received those records this month. Based on a review of those records, and in order to properly respond to the petition, we need obtain a various minutes of calendar calls, as well petitioner's quilty plea allocution. My office is making efforts to get these materials. Even if I had these minutes today, I have been assigned nine other active federal habeas corpus matters, and I have been directed to file responses in

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eight of these cases before the end of April 2008. I also have been directed to file an appellee's brief in the Second Circuit by April 4, 2008. In addition, I have been summoned to jury duty in April.

For these reasons, I respectfully request an enlargement of time until June 13, 2008 to file a response to the petition. Mr. Pettiford is incarcerated and I have not spoken to him concerning this first request for an extension of time.

Although respondent is requesting an enlargement to June 13, 2008 to file a response, if a response can be filed earlier, it will be.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Litsky (TL-8976) Assistant Attorney General

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cc: Craig Steven Pettiford 05-A-1425 Auburn Correctional Facility P.O. Box 618 Auburn, NY 13204